

MARRIAGE & DIVORCE STATISTICS

MARRIAGE RATE

There were 1,936 marriages in Lancaster County in 2001. This translates into a rate of 7.7 per 1,000 population. The Nebraska rate was 7.9 per 1,000 in 2001. The marriage rates for Nebraska and Lancaster County have remained relatively stable for the past five years (Figure 19).

The most common month of marriage was June followed by September (Table 37).

AGE AND RACE

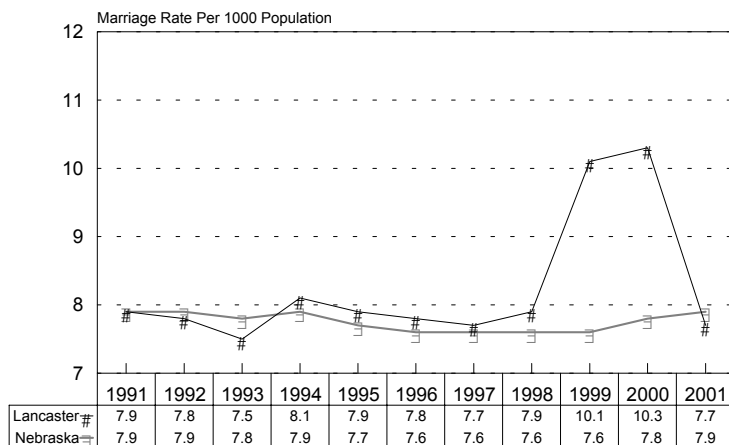
In 2001, 1,756 (90.7%) grooms and 1,779 (91.9%) brides were White. The remaining 176 grooms and 153 brides were of other races. Four grooms and 4 brides did not report any race (Table 38).

Table 37.
Marriages by Month
Lancaster County, 2001.

Month	Frequency	Percent
January	76	3.9
February	100	5.2
March	124	6.4
April	154	8
May	192	9.9
June	281	14.5
July	200	10.3
August	211	10.9
September	234	12.1
October	129	6.7
November	107	5.5
December	128	6.6
Total	1936	100

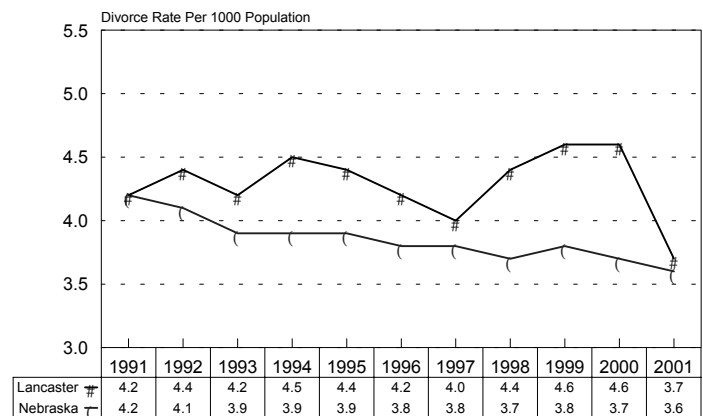
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Figure 19: Marriage Rate
Lancaster County and Nebraska
1991 to 2001



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Figure 20: Divorce Rate
Lancaster County and Nebraska
1991 to 2001



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In 2000, the mean (average) age for Lancaster County grooms was 31 years. The mean age for brides was 29 years.

The mean marriage age of White males and females was 31 and 29 years, respectively. The mean age for Black males and females was 32.8 and 31 years, respectively. The mean marriage age for American Indian males and females was 36.8 and 27.9, respectively. The mean marriage age was 29.3 for Asian males and 28 for Asian females.

EDUCATION

Grooms and brides had a mean education of 14 years or two years of education beyond high school. The most frequent educational level was equivalent to a high school education (12 years) for both males and females.

DIVORCE RATE

The 2001 marriage/divorce ratio in Lancaster County was 2.1/1 (Table 39), indicating that there were 2.1 times as many marriages as divorces.

There were 926 divorces in Lancaster County in 2001. This represents a rate of 3.7 per 1,000 population, a slight decrease from the previous years (Figure 20). The 2001 divorce rate for Nebraska was 3.6 per 1,000 population.

Among males divorced in 2001, 67.8 percent were divorced for the first time, while among females, 63.9 percent divorced for the first time.

AGE AND RACE

The average age of divorced males was 39.5 years and the average age of divorced females was 37.4 years. The median age of divorced males was 39.0 years, while the median age of divorced females was 37.0 years. The average age of first time divorced males and females was 39.5 and 37.4 years, respectively.

Of the divorces where race was reported in 2001, 90.0 percent divorces involved White males and 92.3 percent of divorces involved White females. Marriage/divorce ratios ranged from 1.8 for Black males to 2.6 for Asian males (Table 39).

SETTLEMENT

In 2001, divorce settlements ranged from no settlement to alimony, child support, property, or a combination of settlements. Table 41 lists the types and frequencies of divorce settlements. Divorces most commonly involved property settlement only (37.3%) or property settlement and child support (29.7%).

CHILDREN OF DIVORCE & CUSTODY ARRANGEMENTS

Of the 926 divorces in 2001, 509 (54.9%) occurred in households with children under the age of 18. These divorces involved 927 children (1 child per divorce).

Of the 509 divorce settlements involving children during 2001, the divorced woman was awarded exclusive custody of all or some children in 384 (75.4%) of the cases. Divorced men were awarded exclusive custody of some or all children in 47 (9.2%) of these divorces.

In 67 (13%) of divorces, joint custody was awarded for some of all of the children. In 2 (0.4%) of divorces, some or all children were awarded to a party other than the divorced man or woman.

Table 38.
Marriage by Sex and Race
Lancaster County, 2001

Race	Males	Percent	Females	Percent
White	1756	90.7	1779	91.9
Black	85	4.4	44	2.3
Am.Indian	6	0.3	9	0.5
Asian	62	3.1	84	4.3
Other/Unknown	27	1.4	20	1
Total	1936	100	1936	100

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Table 39.
Marriages/ Divorce Ratio
Race of Male
Lancaster County, 2001

Race	Number of Marriages/ Divorce	Ratio
White	1756/833	2.1/1
Black	85/37	2.3/1
Am Indian	6/4	1.5/1
Asian	62/18	3.4/1
Unknow/Other	27/34	0.8/1
Total	1936/926	2.1/1

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Table 40.
Number or Times married at the time of Divorce.
Males and Females
Lancaster County, 2001

Times Married	Males	Percent	Females	Percent
1	628	67.8	592	63.9
2	193	20.8	220	23.8
3	44	4.8	55	5.9
4	14	1.5	9	1
5	2	0.2	7	0.8
6 or more	0	0	1	0.1
Not Classifiable	45	4.9	42	4.5
Total	926	100	926	100

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Table 41.
Types of Settlements
Lancaster County, 2001

Settlement	Frequency	Percentage
None	131	14.1
Alimony	4	0.4
Child Support	71	7.7
Property Settlement	345	37.3
Alimony and Child Support	4	0.4
Alimony and Property Settlement	47	5.1
Child Support and Property Settlement	275	29.7
Alimony, Child Support and Property Settlement	47	5.1
All Other	0	0
Unknown and Not Classifiable	2	0.2
Total	926	100

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